

Building Stronger Families Framework Implementation Update

November 3, 2014
Commission on Children and Families



Presentation Objectives

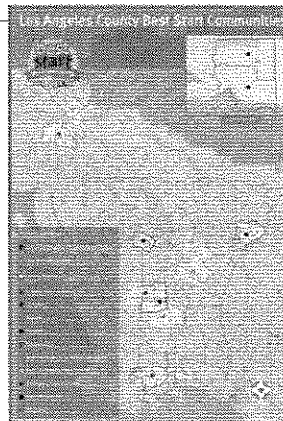
- Provide information about the Best Start Communities
- Provide an overview of the Building Stronger Families Framework (BSFF)
- Discuss lessons learned to date & next steps



Best Start Communities

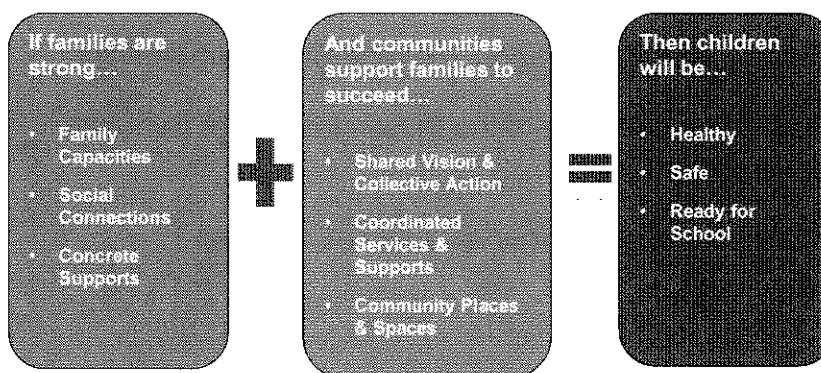
- Broadway-Manchester
- Central Long Beach
- Compton/East Compton
- East LA
- El Monte/South El Monte
- Lancaster
- Metro LA
- Northeast Valley (Pacoima)
- Palmdale
- Panorama City
- Southeast LA
- Watts-Willowbrook
- West Athens
- Wilmington

<http://beststartla.org/find-your-community>



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BSFF Theory of Change & Core Results



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BSFF Implementation: *Strengthening Community Capacity*

Through Best Start, First 5 LA seeks to:

- Strengthen the knowledge and skills of community members to lead a community change initiative
- Provide resources to build social capital, promote civic engagement, improve organizational capacity, and mobilize community resources
- Develop community infrastructure to expand the scope and promote sustainability over time
- Achieve population-level outcomes

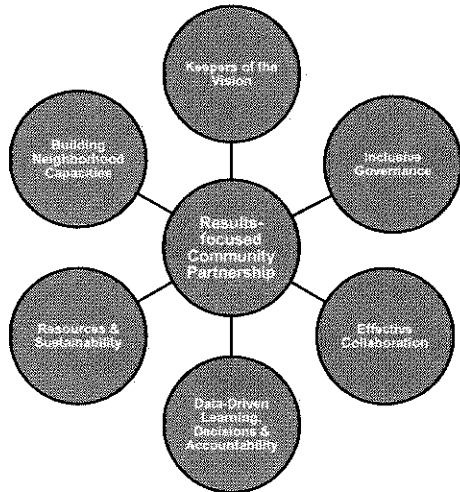


BSFF Implementation: *Strengthening Community Capacity*

- Community Partnerships
 - ✓ Parents/Residents
 - ✓ Organizations/Institutions
 - ✓ Civic Leaders
- Learning by Doing (focus on results)
- Developmental Evaluation
- Strategic Alignment of Investments



Learning by Doing: What the Community Partnerships are Learning



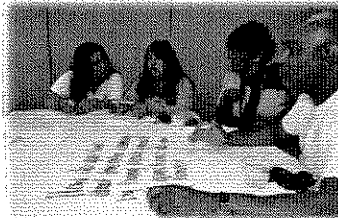
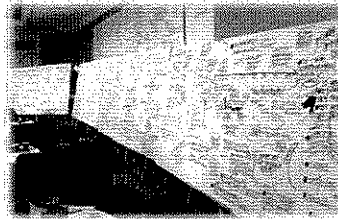
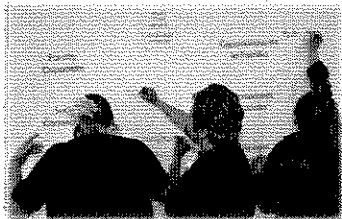
Examples of the "Learning"

- Stakeholder Representation
- Demographic Diversity
- Parent/Resident Leadership
- Data-Driven Decisions
- Meaningful Collaboration
- Community Engagement/Mobilization
- Leveraging Resources
- Appropriate Results, Indicators & Strategies

Results-Focused Capacities

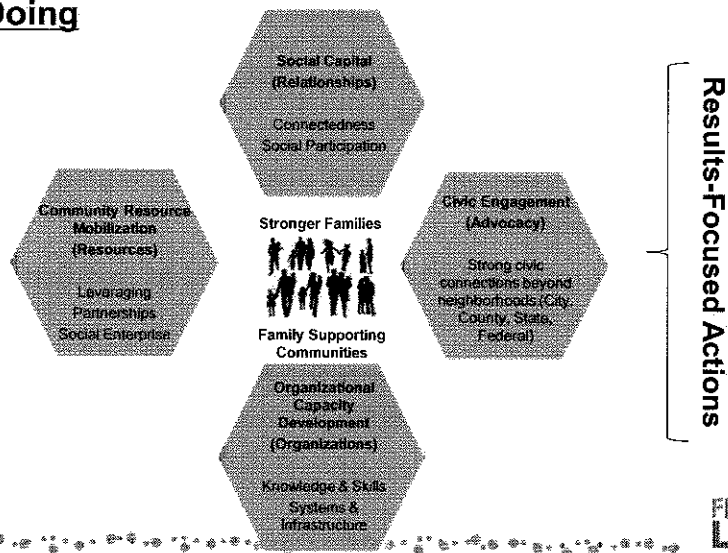
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Results-Focused Capacities: Data-Driven Decisions (Example)



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Learning by Doing: What the Community Partnerships Are Doing



Developmental Evaluation (DE)

- *Why?*
 - Communities' prior experience with evaluators/evaluation
 - Focus on learning
 - Community as an evaluation partner versus subject
- *How?* Embedded evaluators³ in 14 communities
to ensure feedback
- *Benefit* - Rapid feedback at multiple levels to improve processes, structures, and relationships

The Utility of DE: *The Best Start Experience*

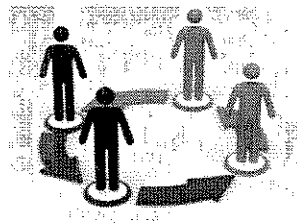
- Re-engaged program staff and community members in the evaluation process
- Surfaced key emerging issues across 14 communities to inform next steps
- Highlighted unintended consequences that traditional evaluation would have missed
- Provided context for understanding intent versus implementation as we reflect and reconsider how we move forward

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BSFF Implementation: Strategic Alignment

- Coordination with First 5 LA Investments
 - Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative (DPH)
 - Peer Support Groups for Parents
 - Market Match
 - Children's Garden Collaborative
- Other Place-based Efforts
 - Health Neighborhoods (DMH)
 - Promise Neighborhoods (Pacoima)
 - Building Healthy Communities



Lessons Learned

- Navigating new and complex concepts, processes and partnerships
- Engaging community in inclusive decision-making
- Embracing feedback and continuous learning
- Balancing funder-driven goals with community needs
- Promoting innovative strategies to sustain engagement and momentum

takes time and engaged.

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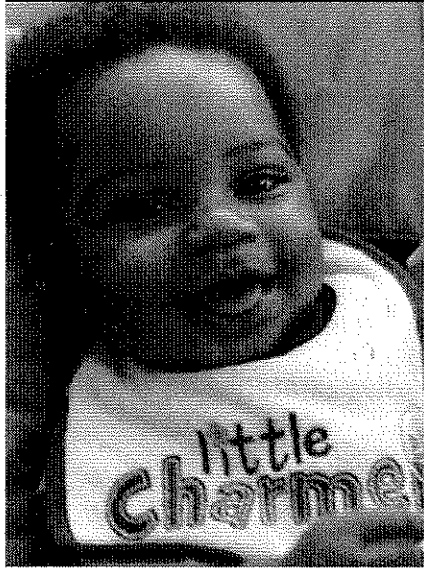
Rafael.

BSFF Next Steps

- First 5 LA Board of Commissioners Update - November 13, 2014
- Learning Community - November 21, 2014
- End-of-Year Best Start Showcase – December 2014
- Implementation of Community Strategies - beginning January 2015

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